

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, comprising:
an animal trap;
a wireless radio frequency transmitter coupled to the animal trap, the wireless radio frequency transmitter transmitting a series of signals at substantially random intervals upon activation of the animal trap; and
a receiver configured to receive the series of signals from the wireless radio frequency transmitter.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, the wireless radio frequency transmitter comprising an outer housing, a transmit circuit, an antenna, and a power source.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, the transmit circuit comprising a timer circuit, an encoder/processor circuit controlled by the timer circuit, and a transmitter circuit.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, the animal trap comprising a live animal trap.
5. The apparatus of claim 4, the wireless radio frequency transmitter including a trap activation a sensor.
6. The apparatus of claim 5, the trap activation sensor comprising a disturbance switch.
7. The apparatus of claim 5, the trap activation sensor comprising a tilt switch.
8. The apparatus of claim 5, the trap activation sensor comprising a proximity sensor.
9. The apparatus of claim 5, the trap activation sensor comprising a magnetic switch.

10. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the wireless radio frequency transmitter is mounted on a door or frame of the live animal trap.
11. The apparatus of claim 7, the trap activation sensor operating to supply power to a timer circuit within the wireless radio frequency transmitter enabling the wireless radio frequency transmitter to begin transmission of the series of signals.
12. The apparatus of claim 1, the animal trap comprising a spring-loaded rodent/animal trap.
13. The apparatus of claim 12, the wireless radio frequency transmitter being coupled to the animal trap by electrical contacts.
14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein activation of the spring-loaded rodent/animal trap activates a timer circuit in the wireless radio frequency transmitter enabling the wireless radio frequency transmitter to transmit the series of signals.
15. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of transmitters.
16. The apparatus of claim 1, the receiver comprising:
 - an antenna a to receive the series of signals;
 - signal receiver circuit coupled to the antenna;
 - a decoder/processor circuit coupled to the signal receiver circuit;
 - an alert mechanism; and
 - a power source.
17. A wireless animal trap detection kit capable of being assembled in the field on a cage of a live animal trap, the kit comprising the combination of:

a wireless transmitter configured to be mounted on a live animal trap and to transmit at least one signal upon activation of the live animal trap;
a mounting mechanism adapted to affix the wireless transmitter to the live animal trap;
and
a receiver locatable at a remote distance from the wireless transmitter and configured to receive the at least one signal and to alert a user of activation of the live animal trap.

18. The kit of claim 17, the mounting mechanism comprising a hook and loop fastener.
19. The kit of claim 17, the mounting mechanism comprising a clip.
20. The kit of claim 17, the mounting mechanism comprising a clamp.
21. The kit of claim 17, the mounting mechanism comprising a cable tie.
22. The kit of claim 17, the at least one signal comprising a series of signals transmitted at substantially random intervals.
23. A wireless animal trap detection kit capable of being assembled in the field to be electrically coupled to a spring-loaded rodent/animal trap, the kit comprising the combination of:
 - a wireless transmitter configured to be electrically coupled to a spring-loaded rodent/animal trap to form a closed circuit such that activation of the spring-loaded rodent/animal trap opens the circuit and to transmit at least one signal upon activation of the spring-loaded rodent/animal trap;
 - a connector adapted to electrically couple the wireless transmitter to the spring-loaded rodent/animal trap; and
 - a receiver locatable at a remote distance from the wireless transmitter and configured

to receive the at least one signal from the wireless transmitter and to alert a user of activation of the spring-loaded rodent/animal trap.

24. The kit of claim 23, the at least one signal comprising a series of signals transmitted at substantially random intervals.